

FREE

# The Romulus News

OCTOBER 27, 1995 – NOVEMBER 9, 1995

"the little paper"

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 7

## INSIDE: "ELECTION '95" PULL-OUT with CANDIDATE INFO

### Timely Tidbits ...

#### Candy Inspection

This Halloween promises to be a little bit safer, thanks to the Romulus Police Department and some local businesses and community groups.

On Tuesday, October 31, Students Against Drunk Driving members will join Romulus police officers in conducting a candy inspection at the Wayne Road McDonald's restaurant from 7 to 9 p.m. Still another inspection site – to be conducted by Romulus police and the Romulus Police Explorers – will be set up at the Burger King restaurant on Wayne Road.

Also helping to make the holiday a safe one will be the half-dozen crime prevention officers who will be doing special additional patrol duty that evening.

#### Donations Wanted!

The Romulus Middle School Parents Association is looking for items for the student activity room.

Students must earn the right to use this room on a week-to-week basis by coming to school on time, doing well in class, and completing their homework.

The following is their wish list: books and comics, NES (Nintendo) games and controllers, foosball table, air hockey table, board games, hand-held games, stair steppers, exercise bikes, tread mills, weight benches, weight machines, and weights. If you have any of these items collecting dust at your house, give them a call (Susan Watts: 941-0476). They'll be happy to arrange for pick-up.

Volunteers are the most important wish-list item! Students can only use the activity room with adult supervision. Please give a few hours of your time this year. □

## Senator Bennett Starts Cable Show in District

State Senator Loren Bennett (R-Canton Township) recently launched a cable television program in the Wayne County viewing area. The show, taped monthly, is called *People and Policy*, a *Common Sense Agenda with State Senator Loren Bennett*.

"I'm very excited about reaching constituents through this forum," Bennett said. "*People and Policy* is not a political show; it is an informal discussion about issues that affect the citizens of this district. I welcome constituent participation as guests on the show and as members of the audience, and certainly I welcome ideas and suggestions for future topics."

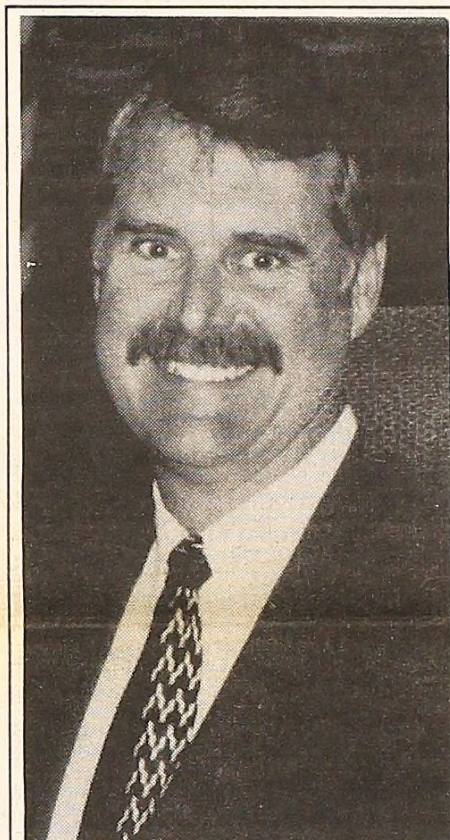
The first three shows feature the following guests: Senate Majority Leader Dick Posthumus, who provides viewers with an update of the fall legislative agenda; Mr. Herb Burns, Chief of the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division, who will discuss changes in hunting rules and advise on hunter safety tips; and Lieutenant Governor Connie Binsfeld, who will be speaking about children's issues in Michigan.

Future shows will include Mr. Richard Bearup, the Governor-appointed Children's Ombudsman, who also works to protect Michigan children and keep families together; and Wayne County Commissioner Bruce Patterson, who will discuss road funding, Metro Airport expansion, and local and State government relations.

Airing times are as follows: Westland (Channel 11, Tuesdays at 10 p.m. through October; and channel 11, Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. in November and thereafter), Sumpter (Channel 8, the second and fourth Thursday of each month, four times daily), Romulus (Channel 40, Wednesdays at 10 p.m., or immediately following the City Council meeting); and Canton (Channel 15, future schedule to be announced).

For residents in the Wayne, Van Buren, Woodhaven, Huron Township, and Brownstown/Rockwood/Flat Rock viewing areas, channels and schedules are to be announced and can be obtained by calling the local cable provider.

If individuals have topic suggestions for the program, they are encouraged to contact Senator Bennett's Lan-



Senator Loren Bennett

sing office at (517) 373-7350. □

## RMS Parent-Teen Day Promises Learning, Fun

Families of Romulus Middle School students are invited to participate in Parent-Teen Day, a unique program which will emphasize useful information for parents and fun-filled activities for teens.

The first annual event – to be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 4, at Romulus Middle School – is being sponsored by the Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force, CCODA Prevention, Romulus Community Schools, the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and administrators and parents of the Middle School.

Middle School parents and teens must register for the free event no later than Wednesday, October 31, to attend.

The program will feature a main

speaker, two parent sessions, a teen session, and a dance party. Prizes will also be distributed.

"This is an opportunity for Romulus parents to become better informed about how to relate to their teens, and to assist them with difficult issues that teens face," said Jacque Martin-Downs, prevention coordinator of CCODA.

Marti Lind, a substance-abuse-prevention expert, will share her thoughts on how to steer teens clear of the outside influences that lead to detours on the road to success.

Adult sessions will include the following topics: "Parents Are Teachers, Too!" "Responsibilities of Parents and Kids," "How to Deal with Your ADD or LD Child," "How to Get Money for Col-

lege," "Five Steps to a Moral Child," "Our Kids and Substances," and "Three Keys to a Better Relationship with Your Teen."

Teens will also have plenty to choose from during their sessions. There will be interactive astronomy, a basketball clinic, martial arts and self-defense instruction, crafts, makeup and beauty tips, and face-painting techniques.

"Various organizations within the community are working together to make this a successful event," said Romulus Middle School assistant principal Ed Clark. "We urge parents and their teens to sign up for an exciting morning."

For more information on the Middle School's Parent-Teen Day, please call 722-1050. □

## DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH



# The Editor's Opinion

## A Plea for a Return to Order

We hate to say we told you so . . . but we did.

For some time now, we have occasionally expressed our grave concern about the lack of order at our City Council meetings. We warned that the chaos was having an increasing effect on the Council's ability to conduct the City's business.

Well, our forecasts of doom became a reality on Monday, October 23, when Chairman Pro Tem Randy Gear's abuse of every rule in the book (*Robert's Rules of Order*, the Council's officially adopted parliamentary guide) led to a walkout by Councilmen Pete Bergeron, Ellis Pennington, and Jimmie Raspberry — leaving the Council without a quorum and unable, for a time, to conduct further business.

Trouble began when, during a dispute over who had the floor, Raspberry "challenged the chair" and Pennington added his second to the challenge. At that time, according to *Robert's Rules*, Gear should have relinquished the gavel and turned it over to the next person in line for the chairmanship (in this case, Councilman William Wadsworth). Both the challenger and the chair would have been given an opportunity to defend their positions, and then Council would have voted to determine whether Gear would be allowed to resume his position.

Instead — whether through ignorance or deliberate defiance — Gear refused to acknowledge the challenge, and actually stated that the only way he would relinquish his position would be if Romulus Police Chief Daryl Poe (who was present at the meeting) arrested him. When additional appeals to Gear brought no change, Pennington asked to be excused; Raspberry and Bergeron also walked out at that time.

After the three left the meeting, only Gear, Wadsworth, and Councilman

Michael Prybyla remained — and the Council was left without a sufficient number of members to conduct a vote on any business. At that time, the meeting should have been automatically adjourned until a quorum could again be seated. But Gear proceeded to compound his original breach of rules by allowing the meeting to continue. What immediately followed was nothing more than a televised "bash" session, as various officials and members of the audience took turns expressing their "outrage" at the three Councilmen who chose to leave the meeting, and making insinuations as to the probable "political" motives for the walkout (as if their accusations of political posturing weren't a perfect example of the pot calling the kettle black!).

Believe it or not, before the meeting was concluded, Gear found a way to implement a third injustice. When American Legion spokesperson Ted Bouzounis made a public statement which seemed to imply that write-in Council candidate Robert McLachlan's efforts to seek election were in conflict with Federal, State, and Local laws, Gear refused to allow McLachlan to challenge the veracity of his accuser's statements by denying him the chance to make use of the three-minute time period that officially adopted rules allot to speakers during the "discussion" portion of the meeting. Yet Gear allowed Bouzounis to speak for *more* than three minutes. Of course, Bouzounis isn't competing for Gear's job in just a few days, either. Gee, speaking of possible political motives . . .

Finally, after the (in our opinion) doubly illegal meeting had continued for some time, Councilman Bergeron returned, the Council proceeded to act on those items of business which could

*continued on page 11*

# There's No Substitute for EXPERIENCE!

Re-elect

# JIMMIE C. RASPBERRY

## ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL



Remember to  
**VOTE**  
Tuesday, November 7

*"There is no greater calling  
than to serve your brother."*  
—Walter P. Reuther

Paid for by the Committee  
to Reelect Jimmie C. Raspberry

## The Romulus News

P.O. Box 74038 • Romulus, MI 48174-0038

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Elect  
☒ **JEANNINE** ☒  
**WAFER-FRISON**

Romulus City Council

**VOTE FOR GROWTH!**

IT'S TIME FOR A  
**CHANGE!**

**VOTE**

Tuesday, November 7th

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jeannine Wafer-Frison



# BRING BACK "BILL"



## Country & Western Dance

Nov. 3rd, 7:30 p.m.

### ROMULUS PROGRESSIVE HALL

11580 Ozga, Romulus

Donation: \$15 per person

BEER & SET-UPS

For ticket info, call 941-1729

PAID FOR BY OAKLEY FOR MAYOR COMMITTEE

## Local Commentary

### Change in Leadership Urged by Resident

(The purpose of the "Local Commentary" column is to provide members of the Romulus community with an opportunity to express their viewpoint on issues of interest to the people who live and do business here. Responsible individuals or spokespersons are invited to make use of this column, at no charge, at any time. For more information, please contact Kristi Stephens, editor, at either 941-1907 or 941-3113.)

\* \* \*

By Charles E. Griffiths III

I recently read a piece of Mayor Beverly McAnally's campaign literature and I had to laugh. Can she actually believe that we don't know how to read our tax bills? I mean, in 1984 the City millage was 9.90 mills. Today it's 11.53 mills. I went to Romulus public schools and I was taught that 11.53 was indeed greater than 10.

Ten mills is the City Charter-stated maximum millage rate. Now we have an Operating millage, a Sewer Debt millage, and the like, but the total millage you pay is indeed far greater than 10 mills — 15% more. Add to that a 1% "Administrative Fee" assessed on all (City, County, and School) taxes just for mailing you a bill, and you end up paying the City the equivalent of about 15 mills, or half again what the City Charter states. Call them whatever you like, but any money paid the City, simply for the right to own property here, is a tax. Pure and simple.

The question becomes, what do we get for all these millions in tax dollars? I believe that what Robert McLachlan said is true: "roads to nowhere." Bob had to fight tooth and nail to get roads in his area maintained to ensure safe travel. Thankfully, he was successful. The "road to nowhere," the Wick Road development area, 30 million dollars later, is still undeveloped. Worse yet, that land is all for sale.

What a dream! Buy some cheap farm land, convince a mayor to invest tens of millions of tax dollars, while not investing a dime of your own, and then sell the land for many, many times the original purchase price because it's now "improved," not rural. It's a land speculator's game and it makes them multimillionaires. All they need is a piece of land with a good location and someone easily conned into spending tax dollars to make them rich. Unfortunately for the citizens of Romulus, that person easily conned is Beverly McAnally. She spent your tax dollars without getting a single guarantee.

Now, the person for whom she invested your money is bailing out. Who

knows what, if anything, will be built on Wick Road. It sure won't be a casino or stadium. (In a flight path? Be serious!) Maybe a trailer park or jail? Could happen. What *did* happen is that \$30 million. The land for which this "developer" paid about \$25,000 an acre is now selling for between \$44,000 and \$650,000 an acre. All he did was convince the Mayor to spend your tax dollars. Nice payoff, eh?

What did you get? Nada, nothing, zip. The TIFA (Tax Increment Finance Authority) agreement guarantees that **no tax money derived from the 700 acres of prime, high-priced land will be spent outside that 700 acres.** All must be spent on "infrastructure within the development area." No money from this development will fund schools, fire, or police protection. Not even a minor amount will be contributed to cover their own police and fire services. You get to pay for that too! Are you starting to see why I question Mayor Beverly McAnally's ability to effectively represent the interests of Romulus residents?

As long as I am on the subject of police and fire protection, let's get into this further. Romulus has about 23,000 residents. We also have a major international airport, completely surrounded by our town, that serves an average of over 40,000 travelers per day. What goes on inside the Airport is the County's responsibility, but when you are traveling to or from the Airport, or patronizing a hotel or restaurant adjacent to the Airport, you are in Romulus, and the City of Romulus must provide you police protection. The cost of this protection is paid completely and solely by the citizens of Romulus. Basically, 23,000 are paying for police services for nearly 70,000.

Not the Federal government, the State, or even the County, but the citizens of Romulus fund the City services made necessary by hosting the Airport. We do not, contrary to the Mayor's statement, get any special tax dollars from parking. Wayne County gets that and everybody knows they don't share.

This explains why the Police Department is stretched so thin. Their budget has tripled since 1984, but their responsibilities have grown five-fold with Airport expansion. Yet Mayor McAnally has not negotiated a cost-sharing arrangement with the County. It seems she prefers to let you pay the bill.

Mayor McAnally also seems to like having only one Black officer in a city with about 4,500 Black residents. Too bad that doesn't bother Randy Gear as

*continued on page 7*

## PIZZA • SUBS • SALADS • RIBS

# Pizza Barn

37133 GODDARD AT HURON RIVER DRIVE

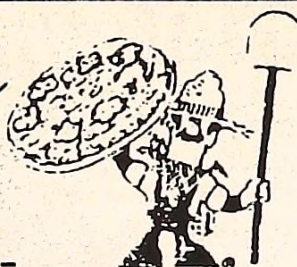
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(Limited Delivery Service)



### 2 Small Pizzas

Cheese & 2 Items **\$6.50** Plus Tax  
Restrictions Apply  
One Coupon Per Order • Delivery Extra  
Expires 11/24/95

### 2 Large Pizzas

Cheese & 1 Item **\$9.99** Plus Tax  
Restrictions Apply  
One Coupon Per Order • Delivery Extra  
Expires 11/24/95

### X-Large Pizza

Cheese & 2 Items **\$5.99** Plus Tax  
Restrictions Apply  
One Coupon Per Order • Delivery Extra  
Expires 11/24/95

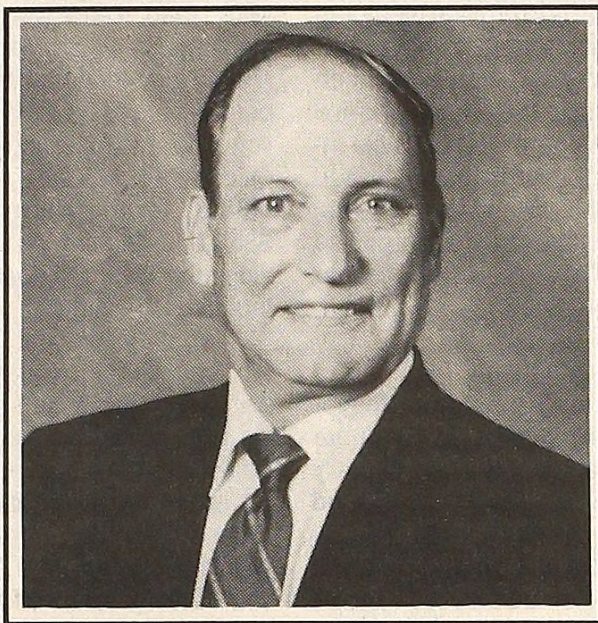
### 2 X-Large Pizzas

(Cheese & 2 Items)  
Plus... Small Dippsters  
Plus... Large Antipasto Salad  
Plus... 2-Quart Coke  
Restrictions Apply  
Limited Time Delivery Extra  
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## RE-ELECT ELLIS PENNINGTON TO ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL



### Things that I have worked to accomplish for YOU:

- Requested a sound barrier on I-94 expressway from I-275 to Shook Road, both east and west – **COMPLETED**
- Requested an ordinance in Romulus to prevent trains from blowing whistles from sundown until sunup – **COMPLETED**
- Requested an ordinance to prevent trains from blocking railroad crossings for more than 5 minutes – **COMPLETED**
- Requested that the drains at Huron River Drive and Castle be cleaned – **COMPLETED**
- Requested that traffic lights be installed at the following locations: Huron River Drive and Northline; Hannan and Northline; Middlebelt and Lucas Drive; Huron River Drive at Five Points; Ecorse and Hannan; and Wayne and Goddard – **ALL COMPLETED**
- Requested that the drains at Northline and Middlebelt (known as the Packard Drain) be cleaned – **COMPLETED**
- Requested that the City purchase a chipper to chip tree branches for Romulus residents at no extra cost to them – **COMPLETED**
- Requested the following streets be paved at no extra cost to residents: Shook Road; Wick Road; Cogswell; McBride; Ozga; Menton; Herman; Sterling; Romaine; and Miriam – **COMPLETED**
- Requested that streets and drains be repaired in the Meadow Subdivision (Leroy and adjoining streets) at no additional cost to the residents
- Requested that a weed and grass maintenance program be set up for the Romulus cemetery and that the swamp at Shook and I-94 be filled in – **TAKE A LOOK AT IT NOW**

★ A Proven, Dedicated Public Servant ★  
**"Keep Him Working for You"**  
 Vote Tuesday, November 7th

Paid for by the Committee to Reelect Ellis Pennington

## BRING BACK "BILL"

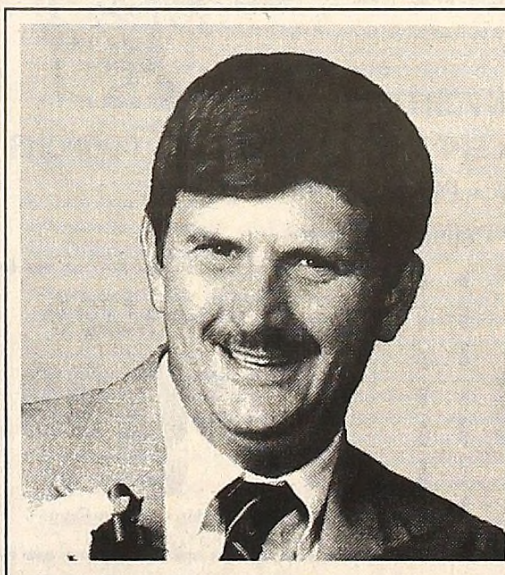


*Past*  
**It's Time  
 for a Change!**

– ELECT –  
**William M.  
 OAKLEY**  
 MAYOR OF ROMULUS  
 on  
 Tuesday, Nov. 7th

PAID FOR BY OAKLEY FOR MAYOR COMMITTEE

## Elect *William* **CROVA** for Romulus City Council



Dear Citizens of Romulus,  
 Thank you for considering my  
 candidacy for Romulus City  
 Council.

I have lived in Romulus all my life  
 and have been actively involved  
 with many civic and charitable  
 organizations. As a Romulus  
 property owner, tax-payer,  
 business owner, husband,  
 parent, and involved citizen, I  
**am aware of the important  
 issues facing our community.**

It would be my privilege to serve  
 you on the Romulus City Council  
 and I **would appreciate your vote.**

Thank You,  
 Bill Crova

- Chairman of Romulus Planning Commission
- Life-long resident
- Graduate of Romulus High School Class of 1965
- Attended Cleary Business College
- Former Romulus Volunteer Fireman & Rescue Unit
- Co-owner of Crova Truck, Inc.

- Member of GMC Truck Professional Sales Club
- Member of Romulus Rotary Club
- Member of Romulus Community School Finance Committee
- Assists with the Senior Alliance Holiday Meal Program
- Served with the Michigan Air National Guard

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Crova for Council - 37054 Grant Road, Romulus, MI 48174



# Letters to the Editor

*Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.*

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

## "Devoted Supporter" Praises Senior Program

Dear Editor,

I have never before in my life written a letter to the editor of a newspaper. However, after reading the comments of Mr. Charles E. Griffiths III regarding the Senior Citizens programs, I felt compelled to write and enlighten him.

He dropped by the Romulus Senior Center and saw people "bored to tears" playing cards. Did he see the tears? Did he ask them if they were bored? What gave him the right to pass judgment on whether or not they were bored or if they were really enjoying themselves? He only viewed the tip of the iceberg. If he would pick up "The Communicator," published monthly, he would see all the numerous activities the Center has planned. Everything from craft classes, a walking club, bowling, evening nights out, shopping trips, day trips, overnight trips, and yes, Mr. Griffiths, card playing too, to name only a few activities.

I am appalled by his insinuation that the seniors program has not improved in the last 12 months because of the Mayor's mother moving from the Towers. This remark is totally uncalled for. Besides, how can you improve on perfection! The Center not only tends to providing entertainment and enjoyment but assists in physical and emotional needs of the senior citizens. The Center has become a haven for many people. I could relate dozens and dozens of such cases but will only tell you three.

One of our friends lost her husband in a very tragic accident. She gave up on life. She felt she had nothing to live for until she signed up at the Center for a day trip. She was greeted and welcomed with open arms. She now visits the Center almost on a daily basis and hardly ever misses any trips. In an article published in a Romulus paper, she was quoted as saying, "The Center saved my life!" The Center is only a building. It's the staff and all the people who use the Center who gave her a reason to live.

Another 70-years-young woman—I say "young" because she never missed

any of her nights out at the Center, never missed a trip, was always at bingo, and visited the Center almost daily—suffered a heart attack. She survived and was sent home to recuperate; to our sorrow, she passed away. We attended her wake. Her daughter made it a point to come over and tell us that, on her mother's death bed, all she could talk about was going to the Center, and the trip coming up next week. The Center is the lifeline for so many people. Their world revolves around all the activities and the warmth of friends and staff at the Center.

One of our trips was to Manitoulin Island, Canada. The coordinator of the Center, Marilyn Hoffer, was not accompanying us because there was only a dozen or so people from the Center going. We sailed off on the *Chi-Chenaun*, a huge ship. We were right in the middle of Lake Huron when the winds became so strong that we could not get back to shore or to the Island. The captain found some safe water and, for seven hours and 32 minutes, all we did was run in circles. We finally made it back to shore. We reloaded on the bus, where the driver informed us that our trip was cancelled and we'd be heading home. The expected moans and groans were heard, but, much to my surprise, so was a comment that I will never forget: "This wouldn't have happened if Marilyn were here." The confidence that these people have in Marilyn is truly deserved; she's earned it through hard work and dedication. It is not an 8:30 a.m.-to-4:30 p.m., five-days-a-week job. To the staff at the Center, it is a devotion and caring for all senior citizens that comes from their hearts.

I have visited several senior citizens centers in the Downriver area and, in my opinion, none can compare to Romulus. In one center in particular, I walked through the entire center and spent a good one-half hour there. I was never greeted, never welcomed; no one shook my hand or gave me a friendly smile. When I entered the Romulus Center for the first time, I was overwhelmed by the warmth that everyone showed me. They made me feel like I was home.

I'd like to extend an invitation to Mr. Griffiths to do more than just drop by; come in and spend some time and see just what a marvelous program and center Romulus has to offer to all senior citizens.

A Devoted Supporter of  
Romulus Senior Citizens Center,  
- Dorothy Burke

## Validity of Write-in Candidacy Defended

Dear Citizens,

During the meeting of the Romulus City Council, held Monday, October 23, false statements were made regarding the write-in candidacy of Mr. Robert W. McLachlan. It was stated that Mr. McLachlan's candidacy was in conflict with the U.S. Constitution and Federal, State, and Local laws. *This assertion is absolutely false!* On the contrary, Mr. McLachlan has the same Constitutional right as any adult citizen (who is a registered voter) to seek election, either by official ballot or write-in status. Many official ballots, including those used in Romulus, have a specific section for write-in votes. Citizens who wish for further explanation or wish to discuss this matter can call Mr. Robert McLachlan directly, at 941-3829. **Be assured, Mr. McLachlan's candidacy is indeed valid and legitimate, and voting for him November 7, by writing his name on your ballot, would not be in vain.** We urge you to seek out the facts. Thank you for your support.

The Committee to Elect  
Robert W. McLachlan

## Resident Chokes on "Sugar-coated Pill"

Dear Editor,

I was appalled to read in a newspaper article, as well as in her own campaign literature, where Mayor Beverly McAnally praises herself for the repaving of Wayne Road. Specifically, she *credits* herself for fixing Wayne Road between Eureka and Pennsylvania—that portion of the road which *least* needed upgrading, due to a plethora of condemnation activity undertaken by the Airport on either side of the road.

I think it is ridiculous for her to treat this as a plus. Not only did the City spend badly needed funds to pave a *County* road, the section paved is now (thanks to the County!) practically a barren wasteland. I also found it interesting to note the thickness of the asphalt used. Maybe the rumors are true. After taking all of that property off of our tax rolls, the County will now develop a property-tax-free industrial park. Isn't this great news for Romulus citizens?

This is indicative of the "smoke and mirrors" aspect of the current administration. Take a blunder—sugar coat it—then ram it down the citizens' throats.

I am tired of it and pray that Bill Oakley can fix the current mess after November 7.

A Concerned Citizen

## Taxpayer Looks Forward to Oakley Administration

Dear Citizens of Romulus,

It has been 12 years since the Mayor of Romulus has had to explain her actions. Mayor Beverly McAnally has had free reign of the City with no opposition all this time. Nothing has been accomplished. While cities all around us are building useful roads and lighting streets, we are still in the dark.

Since Mr. William "Bill" Oakley has not been in public office for 12 years, only common sense can tell you that her comments about Mr. Oakley are unjustified. Take "the well," for example: Mayor Beverly states that she opposes the well *now*. Did she oppose it in 1990? She wants the well to be the only issue in this campaign. Let's talk about the failures for the last 12 years.

Our police department was organized by Mr. Oakley while in public office. Prior to the City of Romulus acquiring its own department, it was serviced by the Wayne County Sheriff. The Romulus Police Department is *still* located in the same old run-down school building.

New roads: What a joke. While our citizens are driving on roads that need to be improved and paved, our present Mayor builds and completes a road to NO WHERE! "No Where" road is between Wayne and Merriman off Wick Road.

We still have many unplowed streets, uncut weeds, and plenty of junk cars and back yards still in need of a good cleaning. Look around Mayor McAnally.

As a tax-paying resident of this community, I can only afford a used car, while our present mayor gets chauffeured around in a Lincoln Town Car at our expense. What happened to the days when our mayor went to work in a more affordable car?

The political fliers mailed to my home are full of facts that the Mayor can only wish were true. As I remember from the Oakley days, there were funds left over for Mayor McAnally. She used these funds for improvements that *she* is taking credit for. Taxes were lower and the Airport hadn't taken whole sections of the City. We had more tax-paying residents rather than commercial buildings.

Department heads never received 25% raises under any other administration. What is the story behind these department-head raises?

I wish to thank Mr. Bill Oakley for his many years of dedicated service to the

*continued on page 7*



KARAOKE FRIDAY &amp; SATURDAY - 9 p.m. to ???

722-5560

**DOUBLE BOGIE**BIG  
SCREEN  
TVOPEN  
SUNDAY

6221 Middlebelt Road • 1/2 Mile South of Van Born

9 a.m. to 2 a.m., Mon. - Fri. • 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., Sat. • 12 Noon to 2 a.m. Sun.

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 1 Large Pizza (cheese & 1 item) **\$10<sup>00</sup>**
**We Now Have  
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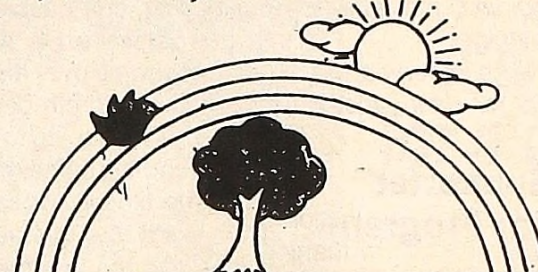
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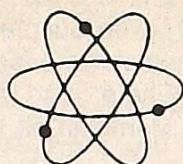
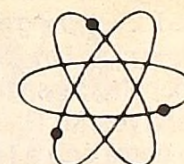
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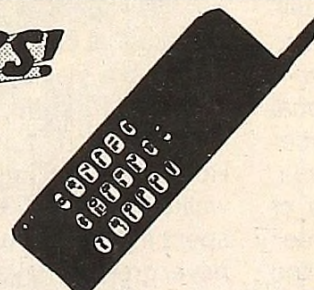
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# Voting Strategies Make the Most of Your Ballot

By Kristi Stephens

Maybe it's the ostensible ease of today's seemingly "mechanical" voting methods—the cut-and-dried, yes/no, A-or-B nature of pulling little levers, or filling in rows of ovals on a computer card—which sometimes makes us forget that voting is not really a simple process. It takes responsible citizens much longer to *make* educated decisions than to *execute* those decisions at the polls. In the end, every ballot should be a heartfelt message to our elected officials.

But with our local government torn into such political shreds that it's on the verge of failing to function altogether (a situation which many witnessed at last Monday's Council meeting), we at "the little paper" hope that, on November 7, Romulus voters will make every effort to cast an *informed* ballot—a shout that will reverberate from one end of City Hall to the other.

To do this, voters will need to approach the election process with a definite plan in mind—a strategy to make the most of their voting voice. *The Romulus News* would like to help voters form their plans—not by offering advice concerning which candidates they should support, but by suggesting some tips that can be used to maximize the potential of their votes' effectiveness.

Take the City Council portion of the ballot, for example. The instructions call for voters to select "not more than seven" candidates for the seven available seats. That's simple enough for those who have actually found seven candidates to support wholeheartedly—but what about the rest of us?

One strategy involves first casting your votes for the one-to-six candidates who have your strong support, then making up the difference with "the lesser of two evils" candidates—people you can only consider to be qualified by comparing them to the candidates you'd do anything to eliminate!

But there is a danger in using this method: By contributing to the vote-totals of these "second-string" candidates, you could actually help them eliminate the people who have earned your strongest support. Remember:

Council's seats are filled by the seven candidates who garner the most votes. If your "favorite" is Number Eight—even if he/she is only behind Number Seven by one vote—he/she will not be elected.

The alternative, of course, is to vote *only* for the candidates you truly support—even if there is only one. By doing so, you forfeit any chance to control who the remaining Council members will be, but you gain the advantage of strengthening your own candidates' vote-totals in relation to those of everyone else. This strategy (known as "plunk" voting) would be especially attractive to anyone particularly concerned about who will get the most votes, and thus become Mayor Pro Tem.

For example, suppose you are a supporter of both Randolph Gear and Deborah Romak, who finished first and second, respectively, in September's primary. If you think that one of these two will probably come out on top in the general election, and you have a definite preference for one over the other as Mayor Pro Tem, you might decide to vote for only your favorite of the two in order to strengthen his/her chances of securing the number-one spot.

Another voting strategy that sends a definite message to City Hall, even though it doesn't affect the outcome of an election, involves candidates who do not face a challenger in their bid for office. Unfortunately, some people automatically vote for any candidate who is unopposed, regardless of whether or not they support him/her—and that misleads the candidate into believing that he/she is doing a good job. But if 10,000 people vote in an election in which incumbent Joe Schmoe is unopposed, and he receives a total of only 5,000 votes, old Joe had better take the hint: A lot of his constituents are less than happy with his performance.

Regardless of whom you decide to support, *please* be sure to vote on Tuesday, November 7. Only a strong voter turnout will give credibility to the results of what is sure to be a bitterly divisive election, and send an unequivocal message to our elected officials concerning the priorities of the majority.

Let your voice be heard! □



## City of Romulus

# ELECTION '95

A special pull-out section containing information about candidates for Mayor and City Council, sponsored by "the little paper"

## Candidates Respond to Questionnaire

By Kristi Stephens

Because we at "the little paper" want to do our part to help acquaint local voters with the candidates seeking public office this November, we sent out questionnaires to everyone running (except Linda Choate and James Napierkowski, who face no opposition in their bids for reelection to the offices of City Clerk and Treasurer, respectively) and invited them to submit their answers for publication. Most of our questions were of a deliberately general nature to permit the candidates some flexibility in their responses.

In the interests of "fair play," we did our best to insure that all candidates were treated identically.

- All questionnaires were sent via first-class, United States mail, and were posted at the same time.
- All candidates for a particular office were asked the same questions, and were given the same instructions for answering those questions. Specifically, candidates were informed that response to all queries for "personal" data was optional (since we had no wish to invade anyone's privacy), and that they should feel free to use as much space as they needed in composing their replies, as long as they did not stray from the subject of each question.
- All candidates were given the same deadline date for submitting their responses.
- All responses are being published in the same issue.

Altogether, two Mayoral candidates and 15 City Council candidates (including

Robert McLachlan, the only write-in candidate who gave this newspaper official notice of his intent to seek election) were invited to respond to our questions. Of those 17 people, only Council candidates Brooker Edwards, (incumbent) Randolph Gear, and Stanley Kreft did not participate. We can only wonder why they showed no interest in sharing their views with you.

As you look over the candidates' responses, be critical.

- Do their answers appear to be sincere and thoughtfully composed, and do they contain supporting details? Or are they vague "one-liners" that more closely resemble campaign slogans?
- Do the answers specifically address the question, and are they limited to the scope of the question? Or do they "waffle" from the questions' intent?
- Can the concerns expressed by each candidate be addressed within the purview of the position being sought? Remember that the various branches of our government have limitations to their powers.
- Does an examination of past performance and/or behavior bear out the candidates' statements? Or can you think of examples that seem to contradict their assertions?

In closing, we would like to thank everyone who took the time to respond to our questionnaire, and to express again our hope that this information will be of use to Romulus voters who want to make an educated choice on Tuesday, November 7. □



## William Oakley

**Position desired:** Mayor of Romulus  
**Age:** 65  
**Education:** High school  
**Occupation:** General contractor  
**Marital status:** Married  
**Children (if any):** Four  
**Years of residency in Romulus:** 65  
**Telephone number:** 941-1729 (campaign headquarters), 941-0403 (home)  
**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Romulus Board of Education, Romulus Charter Commission, Romulus City Council, Mayor of Romulus, Romulus Rotary, Community United Methodist Church of Romulus

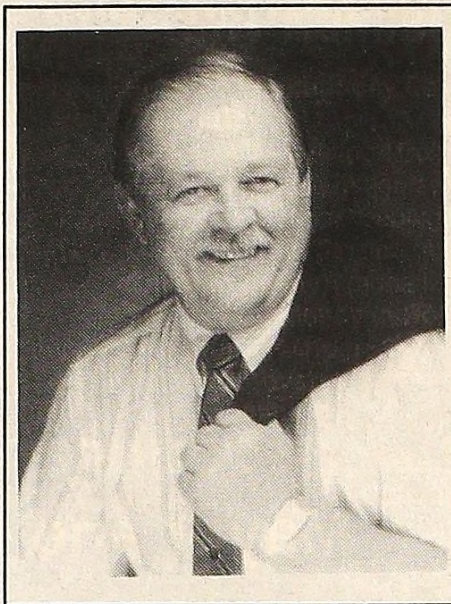
**If you are elected to the Mayor's office, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

My first priority would be finance. I do not believe that the financial condition of Romulus is as strong as my opponent claims.

When I took office as Mayor in 1977, the City was on the verge of bankruptcy. During my three terms as Mayor, we were able to bring Romulus back to a strong financial position with a substantial surplus. This must be done again before we can begin making improvements that will benefit the citizens of Romulus.

**In your opinion, what single City service or department most needs improvement? If such an improvement would involve the need for additional funds, how do you believe those funds should be obtained?**

The department that most needs attention is the Department of Public Works (DPW). This department provides the most services that directly affect the residents of Romulus. We have many dedicated employees in the



DPW with many years of service, but the morale of these employees is very low. The reason for this is poor leadership and direction. I am confident that this can be changed and that we can improve the services without additional cost.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be handled by the Mayor's office, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and act in accordance with the desire of the majority? Or would your duty lie in acting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

As the question reads, if it were a clear majority, I would act in accordance with the majority. However, if my beliefs were in opposition with good cause, it would be my duty to bring as many facts as possible to the residents so that they would understand the rationale behind my position. If, after doing this, the clear majority was still in opposition, then I would honor the majority's position. I do not want to confuse this with popular majority. I have proven in the past that I can make tough decisions that are for the good of the community but not popular with some residents.

**Why are you running for Mayor?**

I feel that if our government is going to be truly effective, the voters must have a choice for their leadership. They have not had a choice for the last five elections.

I have not been happy with the leadership of the City and the direction in which the City is heading. I have lived all my life, raised and educated four children, and operated my contracting business in Romulus. Because of my experience as a member of the City Council for seven and one-half years and as Mayor for six years, I felt that it was my duty to become involved and seek the office of Mayor again. It is time for change.

## Beverly McAnally

**Position desired:** Mayor of Romulus  
**Age:** 68  
**Education:** Southeast High School, Kansas City, MO; Park College, Parkville, MO; University of Kansas City; Kansas City Art Institute  
**Occupation:** Mayor of Romulus  
**Marital status:** Widow  
**Children (if any):** Andrea McAnally, Patricia Boyer, Daniel McAnally  
**Years of residency in Romulus:** 35  
**Telephone number:** (313) 728-1513 or (313) 942-7500  
**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** YWCA, NAACP, Michigan Municipal League, SEMCOG, PTA, Area Council, American Cancer Society, Romulus Help Center



**If you are elected to the Mayor's office, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

Continuing our industrial, commercial, and residential growth to alleviate tax burden to our citizens.

**In your opinion, what single City service or department most needs improvement? If such an improvement would involve the need for additional funds, how do you believe those funds should be obtained?**

I believe all departments are functioning well, however, I would like for us to have a new police and DPW building. Funds could come from the County's purchasing of our current DPW with Building Authority assistance.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be handled by the Mayor's office, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put**

**aside your personal convictions and act in accordance with the desire of the majority? Or would your duty lie in acting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

My duty would be to carry out the mandate of the majority or five votes on the City Council regardless of my personal convictions.

**Why are you running for Mayor?**

From a sense of duty and because I believe the City administration is complex and requires knowledge and information not possessed by any opponent.

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## Jeanine Wafer-Frison

**Position desired:** City Council seat  
**Age:** 49  
**Education:** Business major – Detroit Business Institute, Ross Business College, and Dorsey Business School  
**Occupation:** MIZPAH employee  
**Marital status:** Divorced  
**Children (if any):** Latrice, Sherri, and Jerome  
**Years of residency in Romulus:** 45  
**Telephone number:** 722-5538  
**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Member, Holy City Church of God in Christ; former member, Mayor's Drug Task Force

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

I will strive to significantly improve communication between City Council and the citizens.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

I will work to accomplish the needs of the City's residents, such as better roads, more lighting, a recreational complex, and more police officers.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

I believe that current City Councilman Jimmie Raspberry is the best qualified because of his past experience. **Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your**



**personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

I would voice my opposition but still do the best thing for the City. After all, I would be entrusted with decision-making for the whole City, so "self" would have to be set aside.

**Why are you running for Council?**

I became a candidate because I feel that I am the best person for the job, both in educational qualifications and a sincere concern for the City.

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## William Wadsworth

**Position desired:** City Council seat  
**Age:** 51  
**Education:** Bachelor's degree, criminal justice – Madonna College; associate's degree, criminal justice – Henry Ford Community College  
**Occupation:** Police officer – 29 years Wayne County; uniform sergeant, day-shift supervisor, Metro Airport  
**Marital status:** Married 29 years to wife Virginia  
**Children (if any):** John, James, Bill  
**Years of residency in Romulus:** 29  
**Telephone number:** 941-0616  
**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** US Army, St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Romulus Flyers, Romulus Goodfellows, Romulus Chamber of Commerce

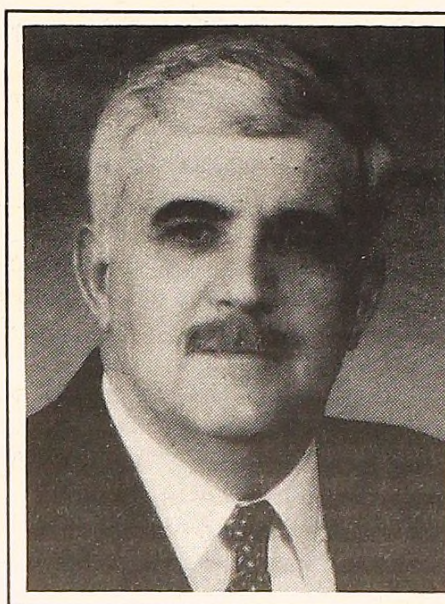
**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

If re-elected, my primary concern would be the health and welfare of our citizens. I would hope that the other six Council members would help me solve the problems that affect our residents, such as:

- the Airport's expansion,
- the continuation of the fight against the hazardous injection deep-well,
- the need to improve basic City services (police, fire, DPW, etc.).

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

First and foremost, I am a taxpayer and concerned citizen who has lived in Romulus for 29 years. My wife Joan and I raised our three boys here. We are concerned about Romulus' past and future. I have served on the City Council for 12 years, and I have the experience to better understand government.



**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

It would be unfair to single out some candidates over other candidates. The public will do that on November 7th.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

Since 1983, when I was first elected, I've always studied the issue before me – and, like I promised the citizens in 1983, I will vote my conscience and be fair on all issues placed before me, always keeping in mind the needs of the citizens first.

**Why are you running for Council?**

To protect the interests of the citizens of Romulus and to see that their tax dollars are spent correctly. I like living and raising my family here. I want to make it the best city possible so that others can enjoy raising their families like my wife and I have.

## FELIX F. ROGALLE

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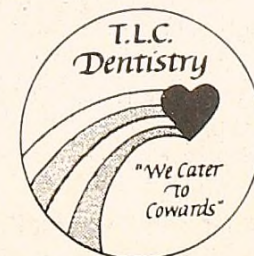
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## Gwendolyn Sibert

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** 44

**Education:** Graduate, St. Vincent de Paul (1969); attended University of Detroit and Marygrove College

**Occupation:** Corporate salesperson, Weight Watchers (top salesperson in the Country)

**Marital status:** Single

**Children (if any):** Nezuia, 21, a junior at Eastern Michigan University; and Calvin, 19, a sophomore at Western Michigan University

**Years of residency in Romulus:** 20-year resident and 20-year homeowner

**Telephone number:** 941-1217

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Wee Care About Others, Post Polio Coalition of Survivors, SOSAD (Save Our Sons and Daughters), PEACE, RECAP, Focus Hope, Area on Aging, Meals on Wheels, Mother Waddle's Missions, COTS for homeless

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

The public's right to know. I will work with other Council members to open up that process so there won't be any more secret deals like "the well." If other Council members are uncooperative, I still intend to hold public forums so that the citizens will be fully aware of what the issues are before they become a "done deal."

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

I am running for one of seven open Council seats. I will provide more energy and enthusiasm, and a stronger commitment.

As a 20-year resident and homeowner, I want to see more done in our neighborhoods, such as establishing a full-time fire department.

I'm opposed to giving such generous handouts to Big Business, such as million-dollar tax abatements, etc. I would like to give some generous breaks to the homeowners.

As a proud parent of two Romulus High School graduates, I'm still committed to do more for our youth, such as a new recreation center and more vigorous protection for our youth. The youth are 20% of the population, but 100% of the future.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**



I feel that the voters will decide the seven candidates, and if I am one of the seven, I will work with them to make Romulus a more prosperous and harmonious city.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

First of all, in any issue, I want to represent the local residents. I have certain fundamental concerns such as public safety, our children, the environment, etc.

If there is ever a time that I find myself in the minority on an important issue, I will come to the voters, because when we assume to speak for the voters on controversial issues without their support, that's when we get in trouble and end up with another expensive "done deal."

**Why are you running for Council?**

Ever since my grandparents lived here over 40 years ago, I loved Romulus and wanted to live here and raise my family here.

I've raised my children, and they have gone off to college and are doing very well. I now want to dedicate myself to my community, which I love, as your public servant.

I think it's time for a new generation of leaders in our city. I want a government that shows a greater commitment to the citizens of the community, and more responsiveness to our neighborhoods, our children, and our senior citizens.

We finally need to stop the bickering and start working together as a great city. We have the people to do it, and we have the power to make it happen.

## John Ryznar

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** 67

**Education:** High school

**Occupation:** Business owner, iron-worker, Local 25

**Marital status:** Married 47 years

**Children (if any):** Seven

**Years of residency in Romulus:** 67

**Telephone number:** 941-1688

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Local 25 Union

\* \* \*

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

If I am elected to the Romulus City Council, my primary concern will be to control taxes and tell the truth to the Romulus residents.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

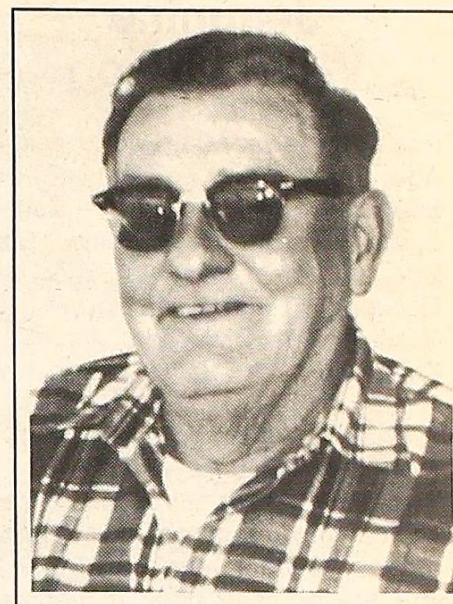
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Voters should choose Ryznar because I refuse to be a "yes man" for the Mayor.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

The single candidate best qualified for City Council is Jim Raspberry, who also refuses to be a "yes man" for the Mayor.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

My duty on City Council would be to vote in accordance with the best interests of all Romulus citizens.

**Why are you running for Council?**

I am running for City Council because I feel that too many candidates are doing things that will lead to more taxes, and I want to control taxes. We have to run the City in a way that serves the people, not special-interest groups and freeloaders.



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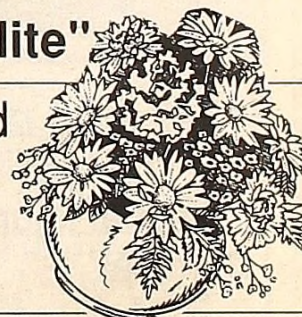
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## Deborah Romak

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** 41

**Education:** High school

**Occupation:** Wife, mother, & part-time employee of the Romulus school district

**Marital status:** Married 21 years

**Children (if any):** Ryan (13) and Lauren (10)

**Years of residency in Romulus:** 30

**Telephone number:** 941-3623

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Compensation Review Board; Citizens Advisory Group, Wayne County Commissioner Bruce Patterson; Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (member/spokesperson); Barth PTC (past president); Romulus Drug Task Force (past member); AFL-CIO (past member)

\* \* \*

If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?

To protect and ensure human health, safety, and well being for all. Securing the single biggest investment any of us will probably make in our lifetime: our homes and, more importantly, our children. I hope to accomplish this by encouraging and inviting citizens to take part in the process by forming a citizens advisory group with me, consisting of citizens from all corners of our city, together and united as one – neighbor with neighbor. Working together is where the true strength of a community comes from (not just seven Council people).

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

I am committed to continue my work to make the quality of life better for those who live here. Also, I will work very hard at keeping citizens informed on all issues and concerns, utilizing our cable to air all Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, and special meetings. Research and more research everything that is presented to City Council.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

In my opinion, there are several: Collins, Crova, Edwards, Gear, Kreft, Heimberger, Prybyla, Sibert, Wadsworth ... Take your pick; all will serve the community well.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear**



**majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

Your vote, I feel, should always reflect what you feel in your heart and mind. Educate yourself and, again, research. Most importantly, how will your vote affect the community and its citizens overall? Not the desires of anyone, including the majority.

**Why are you running for Council?**

To represent the citizens of Romulus. To take part in the local decision-making, helping to steer Romulus in a positive direction for its citizens. To help secure a solid future for our children so that, if they so desire, they can find good homes and jobs in Romulus. To help Romulus grow into a desirable community in which to live.

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## Jimmie Raspberry

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** (no response)

**Education:** High school graduate

**Occupation:** Ford retiree

**Marital status:** Married

**Children (if any):** Five

**Years of residency in Romulus:** 52

**Telephone number:** 722-9480

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Romulus Township Policeman, Romulus Township Constable, Romulus Township Trustee, Romulus City Council member, UAW/CIO dues-paying member for the past 52 years, quality controller & union representative at Ford for 32 years, and Smith Chapel AME Church (steward/member)

\* \* \*

If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?

My primary goal would be to restore *fiscal responsibility* and people's faith in government. I would initiate this through leadership, communication, education, cooperation, and experience, along with the good will of those elected.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

- Qualifications,
- knowledge,
- wisdom,
- responsibility,
- experience,
- and dedication.



**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

I believe that Ellis Pennington is best qualified to serve on City Council because of his years of experience, knowledge, and capabilities, and the fact that he's a good team worker.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

I would be duty-bound to go with my own belief and conscience as to what is right or what is wrong.

For example: In June 1995, the City Council voted 6-1 to approve a 10% increase in water rates and a 10% increase in sewer rates, even though there was over \$3 million in the City's Water & Sewer cash fund. I, for one, voted "no."

**Why are you running for Council?**

I am running for Council to have a voice in government. I believe that I'm needed in government based on the number of years that I have been voted into office by Romulus residents (many of whom have asked me to *please* run again), and also because of my position of "no increase in taxes" unless voted by the people.

For instance: When most of the Council (and candidates now running for elected office) were urging the City to vote for an environmental fund proposal which would have required residents to pay \$2,500,000 in increased taxes over the next five years, just to pay "dream-team lawyers," I and my fellow citizens voted 3-1 against! This is an example of why I feel that I must run for re-election.

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## Michael Prybyla

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** 54

**Education:** Bachelor of science degree in environmental health – Ferris State University; master's degree in environmental health administration – University of Michigan

**Occupation:** Retired – Wayne County Health Department

**Marital status:** Married (wife: Midge)

**Children (if any):** Lee and Heather

**Years of residency in Romulus:** Since 1966

**Telephone number:** 941-2356

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Romulus Planning Commission, Little League Baseball & Football, Romulus Rotary, Aquinas High School, St. Aloysius Catholic Church

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

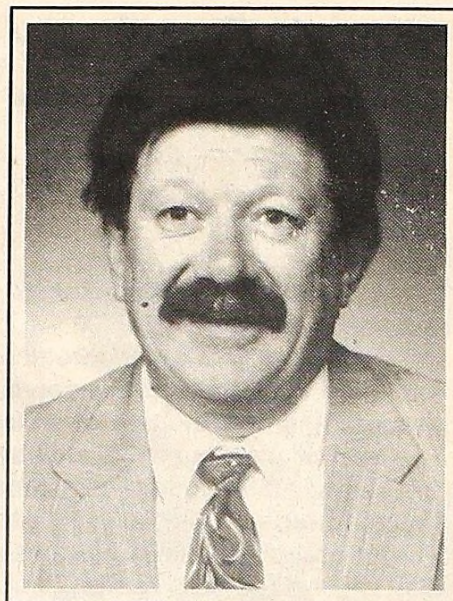
Providing a good ordinance enforcement which will execute all required City ordinances by providing additional personnel which can increase field work.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

I listen to the citizens' needs and wants rather than imposing only my opinions. My goals are what is best for the community as a whole.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

Each one of the candidates have



unique qualities, and singling out one candidate would be too difficult.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

Keeping in mind that I first listen and thoroughly understand the opinions of the people I represent, my vote would be in their best interest, not my own. In addition, I must say that I could not vote for something that would undermine my integrity.

**Why are you running for Council?**

I see the potential in Romulus! I have made a difference in the Romulus community and I will continue to make a positive influence in the Romulus community. I listen to the people I represent and act in their best interest.

## Ellis Pennington

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** 68

**Education:** High-school graduate in Kentucky

**Occupation:** Retired from Kelsey-Hayes, Romulus

**Marital status:** Married to Mary Lou Pennington

**Children (if any):** Carol Sue, Rodney, and Thresa Ann

**Years of residency in Romulus:** 40

**Telephone number:** 941-3783

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Romulus Planning Commission; Romulus Township Board; Calvary Baptist Church of Romulus; also attend Free Will Baptist Church of Romulus

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

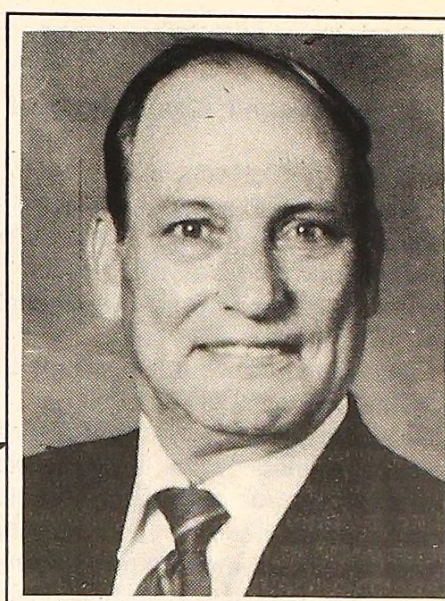
I will continue to work on behalf of all residents in Romulus in holding down our tax base and providing quality services to everyone.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

Throughout the years, I have represented all people in Romulus by helping people who cannot help themselves.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

I will let the voters decide. Hopefully, candidates will be judged according to past performance and qualifications.



**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

I would hold to what I think is good for the City of Romulus. I would not agree to any issue just because the majority supports it. My main concern is doing what I believe is best for my city.

**Why are you running for Council?**

I am very proud of the many things I have been part of getting accomplished for the citizens of Romulus. I want to be part of the Council when the Wick Road project is started so we can insist that the developer build a shopping center in the project's first stage. I also want to help reestablish a format that guarantees each resident equal treatment at City Council meetings.

## Robert McLachlan

**Position desired:** City Council seat

**Age:** 31

**Education:** Robichaud High School (1982)

**Occupation:** Self-employed – marketing director (Watkins Products)

**Marital status:** Married (wife: Theresa)

**Children (if any):** Jonathan (6), Ryan (3)

**Years of residency in Romulus:** 1½

**Telephone number:** 941-3829

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Eight years' experience on Westwood Board of Education; president of Halecreek Community Association; member of Wayne-Romulus Opti-



mist Club, Halecreek PTG, and St. Aloysius Catholic Church

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

It's difficult to choose just a single issue, since there are so many areas I believe we need a new perspective on, but I would say that the Airport and its complexities would be a major issue. I would like to be part of a team of City and County leaders who could work toward alleviating the negative impact of the expansion projects on our residents. Further, I would work to encourage development of the perimeter of the Airport into more retail and service businesses to help us maximize the benefit of 40,000 persons passing through our city daily. I would also investigate how we could, in cooperation with Wayne

County, establish a "service fee" on airline tickets, as other major airports do, to provide monies to the communities affected by the airports. This money could be used to help fund the additional burden on police and fire budgets, and to partially pay for additional noise and traffic abatements.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

I would never be so pompous as to say that I have all the answers to all the dilemmas. However, I do have eight years' experience as an elected member of a school board, where I learned and demonstrated my ability to negotiate, compromise, and get things accomplished. Further, my work with the Halecreek Community Association (as its president) has illustrated my dedication and tenacity. We were successful in

*continued on page vii*



## Tony Heimberger

**Position desired:** City Council seat  
**Age:** 30  
**Education:** Davenport College of Business, accounting major/law minor  
**Occupation:** bookkeeping  
**Marital status:** Single  
**Children (if any):** (none listed)  
**Years of residency in Romulus:** 9½  
**Telephone number:** 941-9468  
**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Chairperson and co-founder of RECAP of Romulus; also a member of National Trust for Historic Preservation; endorsed by Pride Pack of Michigan

\* \* \*

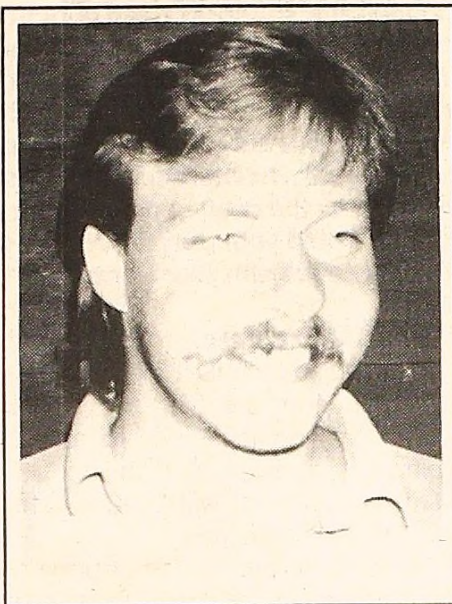
**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

I am not a single-issue person; there are several issues that need to be addressed, including: Metro Airport, the Metro World Development, gambling, injection wells, etc. One thing I feel strongly about is seeking a monthly meeting of the City Council solely to give citizens expanded time limits to speak out on various issues, similar to town meetings.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

I feel I would be a very good City Council person. I am young and I have a lot of energy to fight for the citizens of Romulus. The citizens of Romulus need to take back their city and no longer go about business as usual.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**



I feel that this is an inappropriate question to be asking. The person I feel would be best qualified to serve on City Council is Mary Ann Banks, but, as you know, she is not running.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

When you are elected by the people, your own personal convictions should be set aside, and you should vote for what the majority of your constituents feel.

**Why are you running for Council?**

I decided about two years ago to run for Romulus City Council. I have seen the City go through a lot of very immature actions and not care how the citizens felt. The only way to change anything in this city and/or country is to vote for new people who feel it is time for a change.

## William Crova

**Position desired:** City Council seat  
**Age:** 48  
**Education:** Graduate, Romulus High School (1965); one year at Cleary Business College  
**Occupation:** President and co-owner, Crova G.M.C. Trucks, Inc.  
**Marital status:** Married (wife: Carol)  
**Children (if any):** Mary (20), Karen (16)  
**Years of residency in Romulus:** 48  
**Telephone number:** 941-7872 (home), 941-1234 (work)  
**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Chairman, City of Romulus Planning Commission (since 1991); member, Michigan Air National Guard (1966 to 1972), Romulus Rotary (president, 1975), Romulus Community Schools Finance Committee, Romulus Fire Department (1967 to 1972), Senior Alliance Holiday Meals, and St. Aloysius Catholic Church

\* \* \*

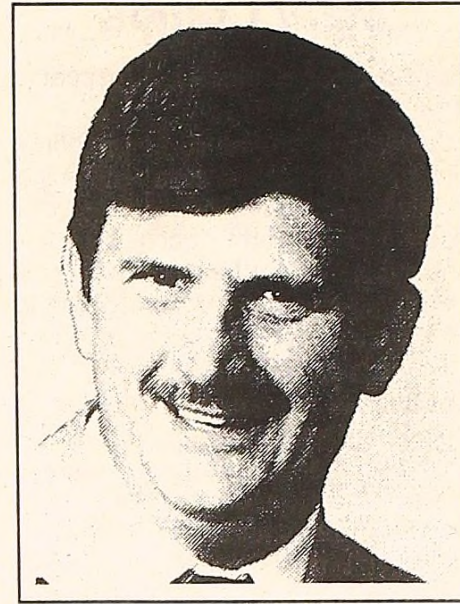
**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

A single issue of primary concern is to get the people on the City Council to work together as a group to serve the will of the people.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

Romulus voters should choose me because I have 25 years' experience in running my own business. I think the City is like a business, and my experiences will help me to be a good Council person.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the**



**best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

I think that all of the Council candidates are good. They all gave the time to run for the office and should be complimented.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

I think that the will of the people is very important. If the issue was of great importance, I would be in favor of a referendum vote of the people to make the way clear for my vote.

**Why are you running for Council?**

I am running for Council because, as a lifelong resident, I feel it is time for me to get involved. I now have the time to devote to this office and feel I will do a good job. I think my years of experience on the Planning Commission will help me in this endeavor.

## McLachlan

*continued from page vi*

getting the Mayor and Council to take the responsibility for fixing the roads in the Meadow Subdivision – roads which have been almost impassable for five years.

I am committed to church, family, and community. One cannot exist without the other.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

I do not believe that this is a fair question, since each candidate has his/her own unique qualities to offer the voters. A well-constructed Council has

a good mix of backgrounds, perspectives, and philosophies. I would urge voters to look at the substance of the candidate's literature and comments. Are the candidates sincere, or are they acting as "fair-weather friends," saying what is popular to say?

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

First of all, unlike in recent history, if I were faced with a potentially controversial subject, I would do everything within my power to survey the residents and find out their feelings on the issue. If my personal feelings were at odds with the consensus, I would most probably state those personal feelings, but, as a Council member, I believe it would be my duty to act on behalf of the residents. Of course, any such action must fit within the confines of the law. We must keep in mind that we elect our leaders to represent our interests and do what is best for the community as a whole. However, the "minority" side of any issue must always be heard. That is the distinction between a democracy and a dictatorship.

**Why are you running for Council?**

Let me begin by stating why I did not seek election in the Primary. As I've stated, I was deeply committed to getting the roads where I live fixed, since they had been neglected for over five years. Some officials were already playing politics with this issue, and I did not wish to take attention away from the roads. Had I run in September, I am convinced that the issue would have been completely politicized and thusly defeated.

Why am I a write-in candidate now, instead of waiting until the next election? I believe that I have a great deal of energy and enthusiasm, as well as the skills necessary, to properly represent

*concluded on page viii*



## Mary Collins

**Position desired:** City Council seat  
**Age:** 62

**Education:** Hayti Elementary (Henry Ruff & Beverly roads); Romulus High School (Olive Street); Detroit College of Business (Dearborn) – bachelor of science degree (cum laude) 1981, business administration & management, with minor in accounting; Assessor's Level I Certification, 1992

**Occupation:** Senior Clerk V, Finance Department, City of Wayne (six years) – responsibilities include: personal property taxes, board of review, homestead affidavits, various assessing duties, tax-bill processing, and cashing; previously employed with the City of Romulus as Council secretary (six years)

**Marital status:** Married to Ron Collins (1988), who is employed with the City of Romulus in the Building and Grounds Department (13 years)

**Children (if any):** We have seven grown children: Ann, David, and Maggie (Jesko) Hatten, and Mark, Chris, Lindy (Jacob), and Kevin Collins; five grandchildren: Kady and Cal Jesko, Nathan and Kelsey Collins, and Sean Collins

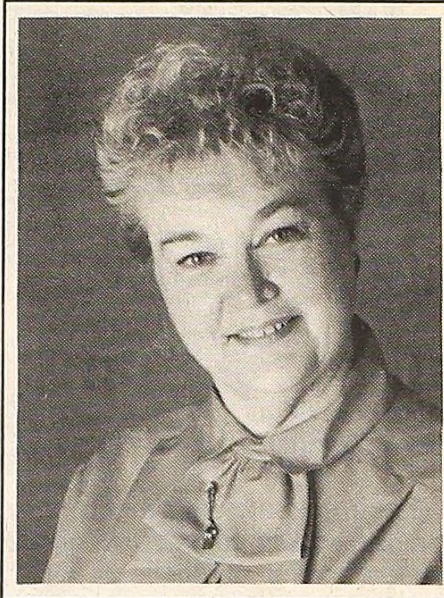
**Years of residency in Romulus:** I am a lifelong resident of Romulus and grew up in the Middlebelt/Ecorse community of the City; Ron has been a resident of Romulus for 35 years

**Telephone number:** (no response)

**Names of government/school offices and/or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member (please do not include professional memberships):** Member, Romulus Zoning Board of Appeals (alternate), RECAP (the citizens grass-roots group organized in 1993 to stop toxic injection well project), and St. Aloysius Catholic Church (45 years); served on Romulus Beautification Commission, Cable Commission, and Youth Assistance Program; served as president of the Parent-Teacher's Guild, chairperson of the Parish Finance Committee, and Chairperson of the St. Aloysius Festival (three years)

**If you are elected to City Council, what single issue will be your primary concern? Keeping in mind that you will be only one of the seven people on the Council, how will you go about accomplishing your aim?**

As I have been out campaigning, the most asked question is, "Where do you stand on the well issue?" This seems to be the prime concern of our residents. As you know, I have been an active member of RECAP and my stand has always been the same. I want EDS and their well out of Romulus, out of the State and, for that matter, out of the Country. We have no place here for the



well or the corporation that runs it. They have been the worst of the worst. My position is to keep fighting them on whatever level. Yes, it is unfortunate that we have had to spend so much money fighting them. If we would have had strong, community-caring leadership on the Council back in 1990 when EDS first came to the City with their ugly project, this whole mess would not have happened.

Of course, there are other issues that should be addressed:

- better community services,
- development of our downtown area,
- better-run government,
- well-maintained streets/sidewalks.

I am dead set against:

- toxic injection wells,
- airport expansion (they already have enough),
- gambling casinos,
- topless bars (we have more than enough of those, too), and
- favored developers who get Class A roads built into their empty fields, raising the price of their property while our roads go to pot.

**Why should voters choose you over other candidates?**

Because I have been the most actively involved outside of the incumbents. I have attended Council meetings just as faithfully for the past 12 years. I also regularly attend the Zoning Board meetings, Planning Commission meetings, public hearings, and study sessions. An informed candidate is a good candidate.

**Other than yourself, which single candidate is, in your opinion, the best qualified to serve on City Council? Why?**

I do not wish to single out any other candidate. It is my strong feeling that political office should not be a permanent part-time hobby or occupation. That means new blood and new faces. I am a strong advocate of reasonable term limits.

**Suppose that, with regard to a controversial issue to be decided by City**

**Council, you found yourself personally opposed to the opinion of a clear majority of your constituents. In such a situation, do you believe that it would be your duty to put aside your personal convictions and make your vote reflect the desires of the majority? Or would your duty lie in voting in accordance with your own beliefs? Why?**

Each Council member has one vote. That vote should reflect the best decision one can make after studying the issue, listening to others' ideas and opinions, and debating. In the end, the democratic process will prevail and the majority will be the rule.

**Why are you running for Council?**


Some years ago, while debating an issue of common government practice that seems to lack moral and ethical standard, a seasoned politician said to me, "That's the system; if you don't like it, change it." Well, the only way I know to change it is to become part of it. That has not been an easy task. Well-established political forces do not like individuals they can neither control nor predict. And because of low voter turnout, seasoned political machines can and do control. It is a fact that our citizens must face. That is why it is important that we all exercise our right and vote on November 7, 1995. □

## McLachlan

*continued from page vii*

the residents of Romulus. Given the many issues facing us, and the lack of substance from some candidates, I believe I can provide another alternative for the voters without us having to endure another two years of status quo.

In closing, I urge you to write my name on your ballot November 7th. Election officials can help you if you need assistance. My home phone is 941-3829, should you wish to volunteer, or if you have questions or concerns.



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<b>Pumpkins</b> <b>20¢</b> lb.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>Make Sure to Get Your Fall Silk Arrangements!</b> </div>	<b>Straw</b> <b>\$3.00</b> bale
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*continued from page 5*

City of Romulus and for his professional and honest way of doing business. He is showing tremendous integrity in running for public office to try to clean up this city. We taxpayers of Romulus look forward to a brighter future with Mr. Oakley as Mayor.

Respectfully,  
Eugene H. Jones

### VOTES Is Alive and Well, Says Co-chairman

To the Editor:

Where are you, VOTES? asks Dolores Valdez.

As the co-chairman of Voice of Taxpayers for Efficient Spending (VOTES), I am happy to report that we are alive and well, thank you.

Where have we been? Well, my husband died, and I am retired, so I took some time off to grieve. Is that OK?

Why have we not been heard from?

Why bother? RECAP (Romulus Environmentalists Care About People) is a circus all by itself.

Our prime reason for being was to fight against an "environmental fund" millage proposal – and VOTES won! The silent majority of Romulus voters rejected the proposal and said "No more taxes to fight Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS)."

Did anyone abide by the vote? No. Some of our elected officials ignored this message from the majority, and have now spent well over a half-million dollars in legal fees to fight EDS. These are our tax dollars that we told the Mayor and City Council to stop spending – but, apparently, some of these people just do as they please.

VOTES was formed by a half-dozen senior citizens who got together to see about how our city was working. That was our only agenda. We did not and will not destroy or hurt anyone or their property.

We looked at "the well." We studied the experts' reports and, using our common sense, came to the following conclusion: We never wanted the well, but it is here, ready to go to work. It is much safer than landfills (which leak into groundwater); safer than the airplanes and glycol. EDS offered the City a substantial royalty; has the Airport? Of course, RECAP laughed at us, but our opinions have not changed. We have not been swayed by arguments based on half-truths and emotional appeals meant to play on our fears.

As soon as my husband died, I was harassed by after-midnight phone calls, threats, and flat tires. I used my common sense and did as I was told: I quit my seat on the Board of Directors of the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce. I have not had any more calls and only one flat tire since. Are you happy, RECAP?

It's a shame that people who don't live in our city and people who aren't even citizens of the United States are making a circus out of (Romulus voters') City Council meetings and Board of Zoning Appeals meetings. They do as they please at these public meetings, regardless of rules prohibiting signs in the Council Chambers and other regulations that are supposed to govern everyone's conduct. They show no respect, and the poor leadership of the Council and the Zoning Board allows this to continue unchallenged. What ever happened to *Robert's Rules of Order*?

Now is the time for the silent majority of voters in Romulus to do their duty. It is time for a change. It is time to vote. We *can* make a difference. Elected officials must listen to the people.

Sincerely,  
Dolores A. Witzgall  
Romulus

### Local Businessman "Sees a PATTERN"

Dear Editor,

I was disappointed to see that Charles Griffiths (formerly known as Charles Ray before he changed his name) is writing his unfounded and unsupported accusations about our city's condition (*The Romulus News*, October 13, 1995). He claims that he sees a pattern regarding the direction of the City. Well, I see a PATTERN.

Mr. Griffiths claims that the 1990 Census shows property values in the City have declined 50% over the past 10 years, while his assessment increased 35%. Strange but true: I checked City records, and Mr. Griffiths doesn't own any property in the City of Romulus, let alone pay taxes. Doesn't he live with his grandmother? Besides, if those claims were true, wouldn't the State of Michigan have stepped in a long time ago to reflect 50% of true cash value? If he places so much faith and importance on this alleged Census Bureau report, why doesn't he appeal his grandmother's assessment to the Tax Tribunal. I also see a PATTERN.

Mr. Griffiths says he sees our senior citizens bored to tears playing cards, with little else to do. Yet I know many seniors who love the many programs and employees at our senior citizen center. Does Chuck really care about our seniors or ever visit with them? I remember reading reports in the newspaper not too long ago that this concerned young man even sued a senior citizen. My goodness. I see a PATTERN.

He states that the only use of Federal Community Block Grant money was on a seldom-used community park. The Recreation Department has spent over \$100,000 on park equipment and improvements in the City, including the City's largest and most-used Elmer

## LOCAL COMMENTARY

*continued from page 3*

much as it bothers me. Jimmie Raspberry has been on her for years to correct this, but she doesn't. You mean to tell me there are not qualified Black candidates for open positions in the Police Department, or other departments for that matter? I can't buy that. I think there is a deeper, more sinister reason. I just think that the question needs to be raised, over and over.

I called 911 a couple of years ago. There was a young woman being beaten by her father in the middle of Neville Street – less than 200 yards from the Police Department! It took over an hour for an officer to arrive, since all cars were "on the opposite side of town." I don't blame the individual officers – they work with what they are given – but I don't feel protected when the Police Department, four hundred feet from my home, can't respond to a violent situation in less than an hour.

We need to have some leadership in the City (Police Department included) that understands that the residents of Romulus want to feel safe. We want the two- and three-minute emergency response times that the Dearborn Police Department has. We pay for it, and by God, we need it!

The leadership must change. Beverly McAnally has surrounded herself with appointees whose only qualification is total, blind loyalty to her. She has really made a mess of things. It's time that we, the voters, corrected this. On November 7, we'll get our chance.

Many of you remember reading the articles I wrote last year about City finances. I wrote those while I was at the University of Michigan studying for my Master of Public Administration degree,

which I received last December. My research told me that there are great, but beatable, problems facing Romulus. My study revealed that they all have a common origin: the policies, procedures, and practices of Mayor Beverly McAnally.

I was asked again and again to run for Mayor. I honestly thought about it. I knew that the problems which Mayor McAnally has created, like her Well, would hound me, but I also knew that she had to be stopped before she did even more damage.

Thank God Bill Oakley threw his hat in the ring! Bill is incredibly able to pick up the pieces and turn Romulus into a city ready for the twenty-first century. Not only can he stop the bleeding, he can make Romulus healthy again.

He's an incredible man. Two of his children are attorneys practicing in Romulus. They could have gone up to Oakland County, made the big buck, and forgotten their roots here. But they didn't. Bill and Mary Oakley taught their children better than that. They instilled pride in Romulus in their children, and it shows. Now Bill wants the chance to make Romulus a town where future generations of Oakleys, like many before, call Romulus home – for good.

Please help Bill Oakley save Romulus! We don't need the smooth talk of Beverly McAnally. We need the intelligence, the compassion, and the business sense of Bill Oakley in the Mayor's office.

Please call your friends and ask them to support Bill Oakley for Mayor. Vote on November 7. Let's work together to make Romulus a great place to live and raise a family!

Peace. □

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Johnson Park. Mr. Griffiths' facts do not compute. I see a PATTERN.

Mr. Griffiths claims that the City fund balance is now less than \$100,000. However, the final audit figures of the City finances show a fund balance in excess of \$2.3 million. Mr. Griffiths, who has no experience in finance, wants us to believe him over State-licensed certified public accountants who have spent three months inspecting City finances

and deem them in excellent shape. I see a PATTERN.

I see a PATTERN of distortion, vague accusations, false claims, and misrepresentations.

Remember: If you can't believe the messenger, don't believe the message. In this case, you can't believe the message or messenger.

Sincerely,  
Ed Rush



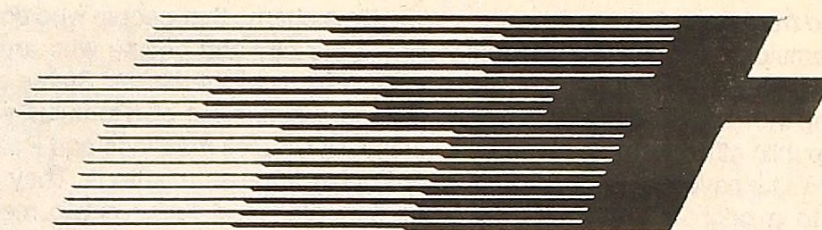
## Community Calendar

- **Bennett Sets District Office Hours**—Senator Loren N. Bennett has set aside the hours from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, October 27, to meet with his Romulus constituents at Romulus City Hall. Residents are encouraged to come out and discuss matters of concern to them. For information, call the Senator's Lansing office: 517-373-7350.
- **Oklahoma!**—The Huron Civic Theatre (located at 32044 Huron River Drive, New Boston) will kick off its 1995–1996 season with a production of Rogers & Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* Performances are set for October 27, 28, and 29, and November 2, 3, 4, and 5. Show times are 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets (\$9 for adults; \$8 for senior citizens and students) are available at the Huron Civic Theatre Box Office; call 782-5380.
- **November Events at St. Paul Church**—St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (corner of Ellis and Craig in New Boston) invites the public to attend its all-you-can-eat, family-style Sauerkraut Supper (Thursday, November 2, from 5 p.m. till sold out); a Fish Dinner, featuring fish & chips, French and scalloped potatoes, cole slaw, roll, macaroni and jello salads, dessert, and beverage (Friday, November 10, from 5 to 7 p.m.); and its Thanksgiving Day Service (Thursday, November 23, at 10 a.m.).
- **Shriners Hospitals Free Prescreening Mini-clinic**—Shriners Hospitals is hosting a free prescreening mini-clinic at the Taylor Masonic Temple (23263 Goddard) on Saturday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Shriners Hospitals treat children with various types of orthopedic conditions and burn injuries.) Participants should bring the following: child's state-issued birth certificate, immunization record, Social Security number, parent or legal guardian, custody papers, and their W2 or last filed tax return. For more information, call David Adam (810-474-3579), Danny Calentano (313-287-4467), Mel Gray (313-292-5487), Clarence Haley (313-676-5499), Carl Rufus (313-461-6019), or Clifford Wimmer (313-382-9534).
- **Nominations Sought**—The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for its "16th Annual Romulus Person of the Year." The single criterion required is that nominees be people who have made a significant contribution to the community. Nomination forms may be obtained by calling the Chamber office: 326-4290. Deadline for nominations is December 1.
- **Writer Support Group**—Writers Anonymous, a newly formed writer support group encompassing all ages and interests, will meet at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road) on the first and third Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The group's objective is to give honest, constructive criticism and encouragement to its members. For information, call the Library at 942-7589.
- **Perinatal Support Group**—The Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne Maternal Child Care Department offers a Perinatal Loss Support Group—a healing group for parents who have experienced a loss through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, or newborn death. The support group meets every Monday from 7:45 to 9 p.m. at the Center (33155 Annapolis). For more information and/or to RSVP, call 467-5588.
- **BHGC Feeds the Hungry**—The Beverly House of God Church (34156 Beverly Road, Romulus)—with its motto of "Tell them that you love them; show them that you care; reach beyond the church"—offers meals to those in need each weekday (except holidays) from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call Dr. Lovell Wooden, Senior Pastor, at 729-6440.

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038;

FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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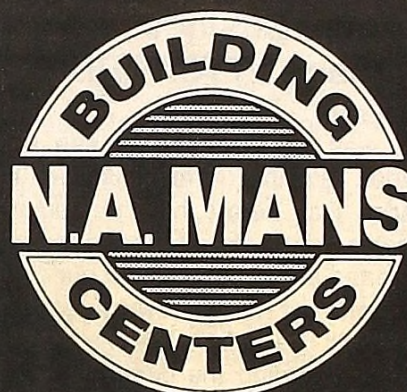
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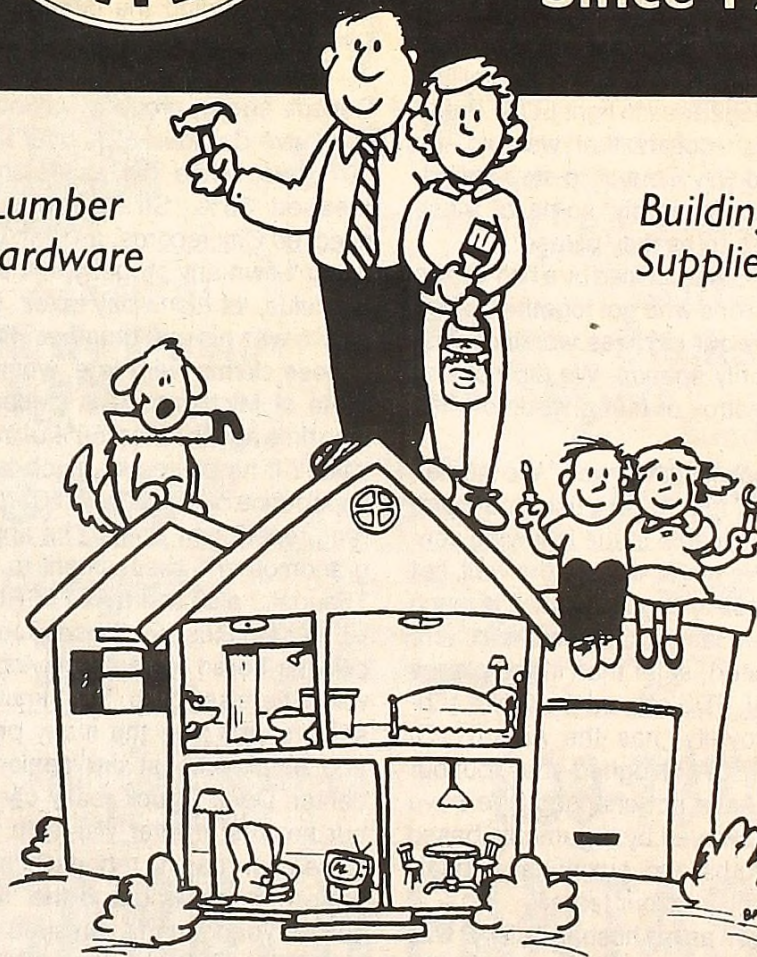
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## Romulus High School Plans Spring Musical

By Christine Fortune

On April 25, 26, and 27, 1996, Romulus High School intends to execute something that has not been attempted there for many years – a musical. Says Judy Thompson-Barthwell, a choir and dance instructor for Romulus Community Schools, "Ever since I started working at the High School four years ago, students have come to me wanting to be a part of a play production. This year, we're going to do it!"

That we are. The selected musical is the classic *Annie*, which will be directed by seasoned actor and theater director, Gary Sturm. In the past, Sturm has been the director of successful theater productions put on by schools such as Northville, and we were lucky that he agreed to help us in our endeavor.

Auditions to select on-stage performers will be held November 28, 29, and 30, 1995, after school and evenings. The first auditions will be open to Romulus High School students only. Then, depending on part availability, auditions will be held for other students and citizens of our community. We are looking for dedicated people to take part in this venture. Auditions are being held early in order to assess the number of people who are seriously interested in becoming a part of this major production.

We will also need a "behind-the-scenes" crew, which will be comprised of construction workers, lights, prop crew, and stage hands. This crew should consist of students and/or adults who are willing and able to put in after-school/evening time to construct the set, assist in the technical aspects of this production, etc. Construction of the set will begin approximately three weeks before the production.

After the cast and crew are selected, rehearsals will begin in late Feb-

ruary. Rehearsals will run after school from 2:30 p.m. until around 5 p.m., two to four times a week, with some rehearsals held later in the evening. Principle characters may need to rehearse more frequently than chorus parts. There may be a few Spring Break (Easter vacation) or Saturday rehearsals if needed. Because of royalties and director's schedules, we can only rehearse for eight weeks. Students will need to be flexible and responsible for learning their lines.

Some other positions that will need to be filled include: Set Construction Supervisor, Program Manager, Properties Manager, and Make-up.

Commitment is a must to take part in this musical. If you are an adult Romulus resident and are interested in any one of the above jobs or know someone who might help us, please notify Judy Thompson at Romulus High School – 941-2170 ext. #503.

Look for other features concerning the musical in the future. Your support is necessary and greatly appreciated. Thank You! □

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children's activities, and monthly newsletter)**

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## Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, and Marilyn Hoffer, Senior Citizens Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (Note: For further information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, please call 942-6852.)

### New Members Welcome

The Romulus Senior Center's Club #1 meets at the Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m. for social and recreational activities. New members (age 55 and over) are always welcome.

### Free Blood-pressure Screening

Romulus senior citizens can have their blood pressure checked by Community Emergency Medical Service (CEMS), free of charge, at the Romulus Senior Center on the first Monday of every month from 1 to 2 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

### Attention Walkers!

The Romulus Senior Center is continuing a program which allows interested senior citizens to participate in an indoor, move-at-your-own-pace walk program at Wayne County Community College's Haggerty Road campus. Transportation to the free Wednesday-morning sessions departs from the Center at 9 a.m.; returns at about 10:30 a.m.

### Weekly Programs

The Romulus Senior Center has a full schedule of weekly programs for senior citizens' enjoyment. Come in on your own or bring a friend for ceramics (Mondays at 1 and 6 p.m.); Club #1 meetings (Tuesdays at 11 a.m.); pinochle (Tuesdays at 1 p.m.); BINGO (Wednesdays at 1 p.m.); knitting, crocheting, and canvas needlepoint (Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.); euchre (Thursdays at 1 p.m.); and/or quilting (Thursdays at 7 p.m.).

### Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips planned by the Romulus Senior Center may contact Marilyn Hoffer at 942-6852.

- **Branson, Missouri** – Visit the number-one motorcoach destination in the USA when Romulus seniors travel to Branson, Missouri, to take in an entertainment extravaganza! The \$499 cost (based on double-occupancy rates) of this six-day/five-night tour includes round-trip motorcoach transportation; two nights' lodging enroute; three nights' lodging in Branson; lunch aboard the Branson Belle; two family-style din-

ners in Branson; and admission to the Par-a-dice Riverboard Casino, the Yakov Smirnoff Breakfast Show, the Ozark Discovery Imax Theatre, and five additional shows.

### • **Gambling at the Clarion Kewadin**

– Those who like to flirt with Lady Luck will want to take advantage of a special all-day gambling package being offered by the Clarion Kewadin Hotel & Casino. The \$119-per-person cost (based on double-occupancy) of the two-day/one-night trip, which departs November 16, includes round-trip motorcoach transportation, one night's lodging, and a complimentary casino package of \$10 in blackjack chips, \$20 in quarters, one pull tab, and two free drinks.

### • **More Gambling in Las Vegas**

– Those who take part in this five-day/four-night trip that departs from Metro Detroit on November 26, just as the wintry weather is beginning, will probably be looking to get hot – both outside, under the sunny skies of Las Vegas, and inside, at the casino! The \$336–\$366 cost includes round-trip airfare and double-occupancy accommodations at the Imperial Palace hotel and casino.

### • **Christmas at Whiting**

– Join other Romulus seniors as they travel to Flint, Michigan, to enjoy the pageantry of a special holiday program at Whiting Auditorium. The annual Christmas spectacular is presented by over 200 performers clad in beautifully bright costumes, and is guaranteed to give a boost to your holiday spirit. The cost for this one-day trip, set for Wednesday, December 13, is just \$46, and includes round-trip motorcoach transportation, dinner, and admission to the show.

### Personal Transportation Service

Senior citizens who have no other means of transportation can take advantage of the Romulus Senior Center's personal transportation program. For a fee of \$1, seniors can arrange to be taken anywhere within the City limits in order to conduct personal affairs such as doctor appointments, banking, or shopping. The service is available each Thursday between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. only, so it's best to make your reservation as far ahead as possible. For information, call the Center (942-6852).

### Hot Lunch

For \$1.50, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call Pat (942-6852) for a reservation. □

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# GHOSTLY

## GOOD ADVICE for a SAFE HALLOWEEN!

- Try to Trick-or-treat while it's still light outside.
- Wear a costume that makes it easy for you to walk, see and be seen.
- If you must go out at night, select a costume that's light in color.
- Carry a flashlight so you can see and be seen easily.
- Use reflective tape on your costume so motorists can see you.
- A face mask will keep you from seeing well. Take off your mask before you cross the street.
- Why not wear makeup instead of a mask?
- Have a parent or older brother or sister go trick-or-treating with you.
- If someone older can't go with you, trick-or-treat with friends.
- **Never travel alone.**
- Plan your trick-or-treat route ahead of time. Pick streets that are well lit.
- Tell your family on which streets you'll be trick-or-treating.
- Cross only at corners. Never cross the street between parked cars or in the middle of the block.
- If there's no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.
- Wait until you get home to sort, check and eat your treats.  
(Watch local cable access channels for time and locations of Halloween Goodie check points.)



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## The Writer's Block

### New Column Will Give Club Updates

By Lorie Beardsley

Writers Anonymous held their second meeting on Monday, October 16.

Members of Writers Anonymous focus on the reading and critiquing of their writing. Both reading one's work and offering suggestions relating to other's work are optional.

Monday's meeting began with two members reading their poetry. Another member then read a portion of his novel.

A creativity exercise followed the first group of readings. Participation in these exercises is also optional.

The rules for Monday's assignment were simple. Write fast, and don't stop to make corrections. After making a list of their obsessions for one minute, participants spent the next 10 minutes writing about one item from their list.

During a brief business meeting, the writers received names of local editors who expressed interest in seeing their work.

A group member who works at Bellewoods nursing home then suggested that the poets in the group come and read their poetry for the residents. Although no definite plans were made,

the idea was well received.

The meeting concluded with two more readings, an article and the prologue to a historical fiction novel.

This novel about Thomas Jefferson's youngest daughter raised questions from the group about receiving permission from the estate of the main character, using literary license to develop the character, and doing the research for the story.

The group asked the author to give a brief presentation at a future meeting to answer these questions and their unanimous question, "How do you keep your information so organized?"

Writers Anonymous meets on the first and third Monday of each month. The next meeting will be Monday, November 6, at the Romulus Public Library from 6:30 to 8 p.m. □

**Happy Birthday, Mom!  
(Christine Skiver)**

with lots of love,  
Christopher, Ronnie, Kayla,  
Amanda, and Samantha

## Obituaries

### Ruth Ann Bobb

Ruth Ann Bobb of Taylor, Michigan, died on Friday, October 20, 1995, at the age of 51.

Ruth, who was born on March 11, 1944, had been employed at University Hospitals.

She is survived by her husband, Douglas E. Bobb; one son, Douglas E. Bobb, Jr. (Clayton, MI); her mother, Mrs. Bette L. Romine; two sisters, Mrs. Dale (Kay) Chamberlain (Onstead, MI) and Mrs. Edrow (Merlene) Morris (Romulus, MI); one brother, Donald R. Romine (Kingston, TN); two stepbrothers, Glenn and Everett Perdue (both of Ypsilanti); and one grandchild, Whitney Bobb. Ruth was predeceased by her father, Merle Romine.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, October 24, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Reverend Neil Swanger (Ball Road Tabernacle, Romulus) officiating. Cremation arrangements were made by Tri-County Cremation Services (Ypsilanti, MI).

### Ella Marie Cappuccio

Ella Marie Cappuccio of Romulus, Michigan, died on Friday, October 13, 1995. She was 67 years old.

Ella was born in Detroit, Michigan, on October 2, 1928, and married Steve Cappuccio in her home town on July 8, 1952.

She is survived by her husband; two sons, Carl and Paul Cappuccio (both of Romulus); one daughter, Mrs. Michael (Toni) Engoian (Avon Lake, OH); two brothers, Paul (Clinton Township, MI) and Richard Bruno (Sterling Heights, MI); and two grandchildren. Ella was predeceased by her sister Alice in the early 1970s.

Funeral services were held on Monday, October 16, at Crane Funeral Home

(Romulus, MI), with Father Alexander Wytrowski (St. Stephen Catholic Church) officiating. Cremation arrangements were made by Tri-County Cremation Services (Ypsilanti, MI).

### Hildred "Tony" Hall

Eighty-two-year-old Hildred "Tony" Hall – born July 25, 1913 – died on Wednesday, October 18, 1995.

Tony is survived by two sons, William R. Jr. (Rinckney, MI) and David R. Hall (Trenton, MI); one daughter, Miss H. Charmayne Hall (Huron Township, MI); two brothers, Marvin and James Leslie (both of Chesapeake, OH); two sisters, Mrs. Kathryn Lee (Chesapeake, OH) and Mrs. Ruth Hall (New Boston, MI); five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, October 21, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Reverend Herbert Gilbert (Beacon Baptist Church) officiating. Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock) was the site of interment.

### Stanley Smitt

Stanley Smitt of Romulus, Michigan, died on Friday, October 20, 1995, at the age of 93.

Stanley, a Ford Motor Company retiree, was born on April 13, 1902.

He is survived by one son, Robert S. Smitt (Romulus, MI); one daughter, Mrs. Irene P. Seborowski (Romulus, MI); one sister, Mrs. Casmir (Mary) Hejka (Detroit, MI); four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. His wife, Pauline (Ozga) Smitt, predeceased him.

Funeral services were held on Monday, October 23, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus, MI), with Father Michael Malawy officiating. Burial was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

## THE EDITOR'S OPINION

*continued from page 2*

be conducted with only four members present, and the menagerie was at last adjourned.

What a fiasco! Such blatant disregard for the most basic rules *cannot* be allowed to continue. Councilmen Gear and Wadsworth managed, between the two of them, to suggest several political motivations for the walkout:

- a dispute concerning the new road which may eventually be officially named McAnally Boulevard;
- the fact that the three who left are on opposite sides of the political fence from the three who remained, with regard to the EDS injection well; and
- the fact that it's election time.

But, really, such creative brainstorming wasn't necessary, because Councilmen Pennington and Raspberry explained their objections quite lucidly – and, whatever other motivations may or may not have existed in any of the Councilmen's minds, the ones that they publicly stated were genuine and justifiable.

In our opinion, the Councilmen's walkout was entirely appropriate. Had they remained to conduct business-as-usual after Councilman Gear refused to acknowledge a perfectly proper challenge to his chairmanship, their presence would only have appeared to lend a false legitimacy to the remainder of the highly irregular (to say the least!) proceedings. □



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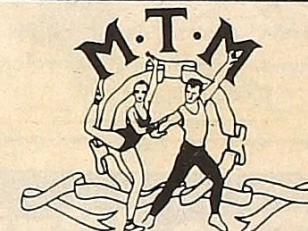
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